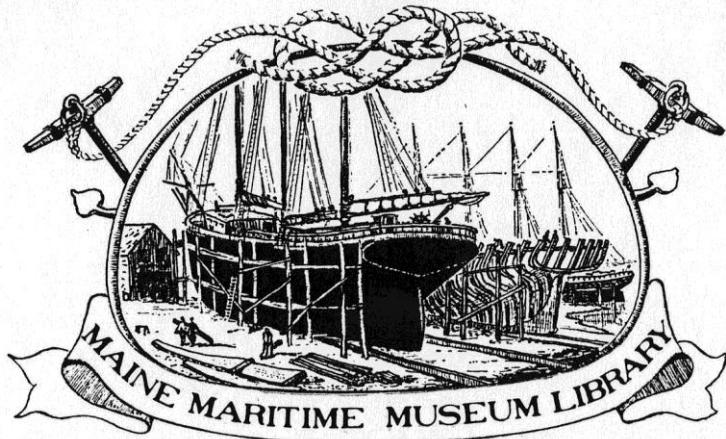


Maine Maritime Museum Library
243 Washington Street
Bath, Maine 04530-1638
(207) 443-1316, ext. 328, 336



**Inventory
for
Manuscript Collection
MS-456**

**Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Inclusive dates 1884-1919
Bulk dates – 1900 to 1910**

by
Tracy Lamaestra
Edited by Nathan R. Lipfert

April 2011

Number of boxes: 2
Accession # 2006.087.01

A PART OF THE CAPTAIN W. J. LEWIS PARKER BEQUEST

COPYRIGHT RESTRICTION

The material described herein is the physical property of the Maine Maritime Museum Library. **Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or the various items, or to their legal representatives, or to Maine Maritime Museum.** For further information, consult the library staff.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials.

Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be *“used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research.”* If a user later uses a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of “fair use,” that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if fulfillment of the order is judged to be in violation of copyright law.

It is the user’s responsibility to understand the copyright law concerning the use of the historical documents contained in this library.

Copyright © 2011 by the Maine Maritime Museum

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the Maine Maritime Museum Library.

Abstract

Jones, Stephen A. (b 1858 –d ca 1925)

Sail loft papers, 1884-1919 (Bulk 1900-1910)

Two boxes

Sail loft owner and sail maker from Waldoboro, Maine.

Originals and copies of correspondence with a few dividend statements and similar vessel papers relating to the S. A. Jones sail loft and the earlier Lane & Jones sail loft. Most letters relate to the order of sails for specific vessels. Some letters include or are accompanied by sketches of sails, with dimensions. The collection has the following groups: Series I. Vessel Correspondence and Series II. Correspondence, unidentified and multiple vessels.

Bequeathed by Capt. W. J. Lewis Parker in 2006.

MS-456, Accession # 2006.087.01

Related material in repository.

Finding aid in repository; folder and item level control.

Added Entries—Persons

Babbidge, Captain Thaddeus

Chaney, Captain A. C.

Elliot, R. O.

Jones, Stephen A.

Lane, Edmund G.

Palmer, Frank A.

Palmer, William F.

Smith, Captain Charles A.

Added entries—corporate bodies

Chase Leavitt and Company

Crosby Navigation Company

Dunn and Elliot

New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company

Pendleton Brothers

Washburn Brothers

Added entries—key terms

Sailmakers

Sailmaking

Ship captains

Ships—Equipment and supplies

Shipping

ACQUISITION

The papers of Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft were bequeathed to Maine Maritime Museum from the estate of Capt. W. J. Lewis Parker in November and December 2006.

PROVENANCE

Capt. Lewis Parker picked up many of his maritime papers through dealers, auctions, estate sales or relatives of past maritime figures. I cannot find any documentation of how he acquired these papers. They were part of his maritime collection that he bequeathed to the museum. He also copied a multitude of primary sources.

RESTRICTIONS

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials for study or research.

PHYSICAL CONDITION

Other than the usual surface dirt and minor tears, the manuscripts in this collection are in good condition. Some documents are in fine tissue paper and should be handled with care. Overall, the papers of Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft are in good condition.

PROCESSING NOTES

The papers were found in a large cardboard transfer case with an orange-colored spine. The majority of the papers are actually xerographic copies of letters and other documents that clearly go with the original documents in the group. In only one case was a copy found of an original document also contained in this group. The explanation of this circumstance is not known, and the location of all the copied documents is also unknown. A friend of Capt. Parker has a dim memory of copies being made so that others could peruse these papers, but he thought that the originals had stayed with Capt. Parker.

No attempt has been made to separate the papers of the Lane & Jones partnership from those of the S. A. Jones operation, because a dividing date is not known.

Copies are not separated from original documents, and both may exist in the same folder.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Stephen A. Jones was born in Damariscotta, Maine, in April 1858. His father, Stephen H. Jones, was also a sailmaker. The younger Stephen married Edith Potter of Bath on November 22,

1884 in Waldoboro. They had two children, Helen and Marguerite. The family resided in Waldoboro. Edith died before the children were 10, and Stephen's sister came to live in the house.

Jones established a sailmaking partnership with an older sailmaker, Edmund G. Lane, born in Bristol about 1835. They did business together as Lane & Jones, starting at least about 1883. Lane died of pneumonia in 1895. He seems to have been unmarried and without close male relatives, and papers in this collection indicate that Jones took care of Lane's estate. We do not know that Lane's death broke up the partnership, but that seems to have been the case. Lane & Jones becomes S. A. Jones in the Maine Register at least by 1897.

Jones's sail loft burned on June 15, 1900. It was believed to be a case of arson. Jones rebuilt very quickly on the same site and continued operations there at least until 1919. The rebuilt sail loft may be the Waldoboro sail loft building which was moved to Bath in 1972 as Maine Maritime Museum's Apprenticeshop building, and presently (2011) houses the Museum's lobstering exhibit.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES

The Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers consist of vessel-related correspondence in addition to a few miscellaneous documents relating to vessel insurance, vessel ownership, and the sail loft business. The manuscripts are housed in two boxes. The largest portion of the collection is incoming correspondence to Stephen (Steve) A. Jones from captains, shipbuilders, ship owners, ship agents, ship brokers, insurance companies, friends, manufacturers, shipping businesses and other sail makers. There are a few copies of outgoing letters. Specific vessels are addressed in each of these documents, although some were unnamed and so remain unidentified. Most of the correspondence regards the ordering of new or replacement sails, and there are many details relating to the construction and dimensions of the sails.

The Stephen A. Jones sail loft made both square sails and fore-and-aft sails, building sails of the heaviest canvas available for some of the largest sailing vessels in use at the time. Sail-making competitors on the Maine coast were C. C. Dennett, Jno. R. Mitchell and C. H. Washburn. The collection records sail costs, sail orders, deliveries, repairs, delays, payments, sizes, materials (canvas, duck), bolt shipments, complaints (sewing giving way, sails cut wrong), sail weather damage, collisions, lawsuits, competitors' prices and the juggling of freight. There are letters beginning with sympathy for the loss of the loft in the 1900 fire, giving way in the next paragraph to wondering when the writer would be receiving his ordered sails. Sails were shipped by schooner, steamship and railroad. Moreover the S. A. Jones loft provided sails for many of the big schooners of William T. Palmer and the Dunn & Elliot shipyard, among others.

Letters in this group also give some insight into the financing of vessels, with sailmakers providing suits of sails for new vessels in return for shares in the vessel, as opposed to being paid cash for the work. Some of the papers relate to Jones's insurance on his vessel property, or to the income he received from his shares of schooners.

ORGANIZATION

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box 1

Box 2

Series II. Correspondence, Unidentified or Multiple Vessels

Box 2

Description of Series

Series I. Vessel correspondence.

These folders contain manuscripts related to individual identified vessels. The folders are grouped alphabetically by vessel name. Each folder contains documents from a single author, arranged roughly chronologically within each vessel group.

Series II. Correspondence, unidentified or multiple vessels.

This series contains documents which cannot be filed by vessel name because the vessel is not identified, or because the document mentions a number of vessels. These folders are arranged alphabetically by the name of the author.

Appendix: List of vessels mentioned in documents

Alexander McNeil (Ship)
Alice Reed (Bark)
Alva (Schooner)
Andrew Adams (Four-mast schooner)
Augustus Welt (Four-mast schooner)
Baker Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
City of Augusta (Three-mast schooner)
Dorothy Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
E. O. Clark (Barkentine)
Ebenezer Haggett (Four-mast schooner)
Eleanor F. Bartram (Four-mast schooner)
Ella M. Storer (Three-mast schooner)
Emily Reed (Ship)
Fannie L. Child (Three-mast schooner)
Fannie Palmer (I)(Five-mast schooner)
Fortuna (Schooner)
George Curtis (Ship)
Governor Ames (Five-mast schooner)
Harwood Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
Hattie P. Simpson (Four-mast schooner)
Henry J. Smith (Four-mast schooner)
Hugh De Payens (Three-mast schooner)
Ida C. Southard (Three-mast schooner)
Isaac Reed (Ship)
Jane Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
John B. Beimiller (Four-mast schooner)
Joseph W. Hawthorn (Three-mast schooner)
Lawrence Haines (Three-mast schooner)
Madelene Cooney (Three-mast schooner)
Maggie G. Hart (Three-mast schooner)
Margaret Throop (Four-mast schooner)
Mary E. Lynch (Schooner)
Mary L. Newhall (Four-mast schooner)
Prescott Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
R. T. Rundlett (Three-mast schooner)
Rachel Emery (Barkentine)
Rebecca Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
Republic (Three-mast schooner)
Singleton Palmer (Five-mast schooner)
Stephen G. Hart (Three-mast schooner)
Stephen G. Hart (Barkentine)
Stephen G. Loud (Three-mast schooner)
William H. Sumner (Three-mast schooner)
Willie Reed (Ship)

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box # Folder#

***Alexander McNeil* (Ship)**

1 1 Correspondence, 1887, A. R. Reed, copies

***Alice Reed* (Bark)**

2 Correspondence, 1887, J. Baker & Co., copy
3 Correspondence, 1893, A. R. Reed, copies
4 Correspondence, 1900, Ryan & Kelsey, copy
5 Correspondence, 1901, Hobart W. Geyer, copies
6 Correspondence, 1901, Washburn Brothers, copies

***Alva* (Schooner)**

7 Correspondence, 1900-1901, W. S. Jordan & Co., originals

***Andrew Adams* (Four-mast schooner)**

8 Insurance, 1900-1903, Boston Insurance Company, copies
9 Correspondence, 1900-1906, Capt. Andrew Adams, copies
10 Correspondence, 1904-1906, Capt. John E. Bradford, copies
11 Dividend statements, 1900, early copies
12 Final dividend notice, 1907, copy

***Augustus Welt* (Four-mast schooner)**

13 Correspondence, 1902-1916, Insurance Company of North America, copies
14 Correspondence, 1889-1915, Capt. J. D. Sproul, copies
15 Correspondence, 1916, 1917, miscellaneous, copies
16 Account summary, General, 1915, copy
17 Account summary, Buenos Ayres, 1915, copy
18 Account summary, New York, 1916, copy
19 Account summary, 1916, copy

***Baker Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

20 Correspondence, 1905, William F. Palmer, copies

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box # Folder#

***City of Augusta* (Three-mast schooner)**

1 21 Correspondence, 1900, Wm. N. Conn, mate, copy
22 Correspondence, 1900-1902, Capt. Chas. C. Adams, copies

***Dorothy Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

1 23 Correspondence, 1904, William F. Palmer, copies

***E. O. Clark* (Barkentine)**

24 Correspondence, 1890, John B. Stahl, copies

***Ebenezer Haggett* (Four-mast schooner)**

25 Correspondence, 1890-1902, Capt. George A. Warren, originals
26 Correspondence, 1902-1903, Carver & Nichols, originals
27 Correspondence, 1902-1903, Insurance Company of North America, originals

***Ella M. Storer* (Three-mast schooner)**

28 Correspondence, 1884, E. H. Wade, original

***Emily Reed* (Ship)**

29 Correspondence, 1885-1890, A. R. Reed, copies
30 Correspondence, 1887, A. F. Stahl, copy
31 Correspondence, 1886-1887, O. D. Sheldon, copies
32 Correspondence, 1887, F. D. Waldo, copy
33 Correspondence, 1889, J. Baker and Company, copies
34 Correspondence, 1890, C. H. Washburn, copy

***Fannie L. Child* (Three-mast schooner)**

35 Correspondence, 1901, I. C. Fuller, original

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box # Folder#

***Fannie Palmer* (I)(Five-mast schooner)**

| | | |
|---|----|--|
| 1 | 36 | Correspondence, 1900, outgoing to Palmer, copy |
| | 37 | Correspondence, 1900-1906, William F. Palmer, copies |
| | 38 | Correspondence, 1904, James Bliss and Company, copy |

***Fortuna* (Schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 39 | Correspondence, 1904, L. A. Dunton, original |
|----|--|

***George Curtis* (Ship)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 40 | Correspondence, 1889, J. Baker and Company, copy |
| 41 | Correspondence, 1889, Capt. Sproul, copy |
| 42 | Correspondence, 1889-1890, A. R. Reed, copies |

***Governor Ames* (Five-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|---|
| 43 | Correspondence, 1905, John C. Hopkins and Company, original |
|----|---|

***Harwood Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|---|
| 44 | Correspondence, 1904, William F. Palmer, copies |
|----|---|

***Hattie P. Simpson* (Four-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 45 | Correspondence, 1894, Captain A. C. Chaney, copy |
| 46 | Correspondence, 1901-1914, Union Insurance Company, copies |
| 47 | Correspondence, 1912, John S. Emery and Company, copy |
| 48 | Correspondence, 1913, A. H. Spring, copy |

***Henry J. Smith* (Four-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 49 | Correspondence, 1908, Charles F. Guptill & Co., original |
|----|--|

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box # Folder#

***Hugh De Payens* (Three-mast schooner)**

1 50 Correspondence, 1919, Dunn and Elliot, R. O. Elliot, original

***Ida C. Southard* (Three-mast schooner)**

51 Correspondence, 1900, Jules??____, originals
52 Correspondence, 1900-1902, Capt. Marston H. Blake, originals
53 Correspondence, receipt, 1903-1904, Union Insurance Company, originals

***Isaac Reed* (Ship)**

54 Correspondence, 1887, O. D. Sheldon, copies
55 Correspondence, 1887-1892, A. R. Reed, copies
56 Correspondence, 1888-1889, F. D. Waldo, copies
57 Correspondence, 1888-1889, J. Baker and Co., copies

***Jane Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

58 Correspondence, 1904-1906, William F. Palmer, copies

***John B. Beimiller* (Four-mast schooner)**

59 Correspondence, 1902-1918, E. S. Crosby, copies
60 Correspondence, 1903, Andrew Adams, copy
61 Correspondence, 1903-1910, Capt. Chas. C. Adams, copies
62 Correspondence, receipts, 1903-1918, Field & Cowles, copies
63 Correspondence, 1905-1918, Insurance Company of North America, copies
64 Correspondence, 1906, C. W. Chadwick and Company, copy
65 Correspondence, 1906-1909, J. H. Loud, copies
66 Correspondence, 1906-1914, Crosby Navigation Co., copies
67 Dividend statements, 1903-1904, E.S. Crosby, copies
68 Dividend statements, 1906, Crosby Navigation Co., copies
69 Receipt, 1907, Crosby Navigation Co., copy

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence
Box # Folder#

***Joseph W. Hawthorn* (Three-mast schooner)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | 1 | Correspondence, 1900-1904, Union Insurance Company, copies |
| 2 | | Correspondence, 1900-1909, Capt. D. W. Hoffses, copies |
| 3 | | Correspondence, 1901, Pendleton Brothers, copies |
| 4 | | Correspondence, 1903-1909, Insurance Company of North America, copies |
| 5 | | Correspondence, 1906, Fearing, Whiton and Company, copy |
| 6 | | Correspondence, 1909, Dunn and Elliot, copy |
| 7 | | Correspondence, 1909, J. A. Elliot and Company, copy |

***Lawrence Haines* (Three-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 8 | Correspondence, 1902, William F. Plummer, original |
| 9 | Correspondence, 1904, M. A. Perkins, original |
| 10 | Correspondence, 1904, A. H. Lennox, original |

***Madelene Cooney* (Three-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 11 | Correspondence, 1900-1901, Captain Charles A. Smith, originals |
| 12 | Correspondence, 1901, Union Insurance Company, original |

***Maggie G. Hart* (Three-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 13 | Correspondence, 1900-1901, originals |
|----|--------------------------------------|

***Margaret Throop* (Four-mast schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 14 | Correspondence, 1919, Dunn and Elliot, Richard O. Elliot, original |
|----|--|

***Mary E. Lynch* (Schooner)**

| | |
|----|--|
| 15 | Correspondence, 1903, George H. Clark, original |
| 16 | Correspondence, 1903, Charles E. Hull, originals |

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box # Folder#

***Mary L. Newhall* (Four-mast schooner)**

| | | |
|----|----|---|
| 2 | 17 | Correspondence, 1904-1907, E. S. Crosby, copies |
| 18 | | Correspondence, 1906-1908, Crosby Navigation Company, copies |
| 19 | | Correspondence, 1907, New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company, copies |

***Prescott Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 20 | | Correspondence, 1904-1905, William F. Palmer, copies |
|----|--|--|

***R. T. Rundlett* (Three-mast schooner)**

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 21 | | Correspondence, 1900-1903, R. T. Rundlett, copies |
| 22 | | Correspondence, 1900-1909, Capt. J. W. Fountain, copies |
| 23 | | Correspondence, 1902, Captain J. H. Loud, copy |
| 24 | | Correspondence, 1906, Jno. R. Mitchell, copies |
| 25 | | Correspondence, 1906, R. B. White, copies |
| 26 | | Dividend notices, 1900-1902, Maine Shipbuilding & Navigation Co., to Estate of Edmund G. Lane, copies |
| 27 | | Receipt, 1904, Wm. B. Tilghman and Company, copy |
| 28 | | Statement of indebtedness, 1906, copy |

***Rachel Emery* (Barkentine)**

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 29 | | Correspondence, 1885-1886, J. A. Wyman, copies |
| 30 | | Correspondence, 1885-1901, John S. Emery and Company, copies |
| 31 | | Correspondence, 1889, Joseph E. Sillaway, copies |
| 32 | | Correspondence, 1901-1915, Ralph C. Emery, copies |
| 33 | | Correspondence, 1902-1907, Daniel S. Emery, copies |
| 34 | | Correspondence, 1906, Chase, Leavitt and Company, copies |
| 35 | | Correspondence, 1906, E. M. Davis, copies |
| 36 | | Correspondence, 1909, H. S. Nutting, copy |
| 37 | | Correspondence, 1910, William H. Randall, copy |

***Rebecca Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 38 | | Correspondence, 1904, Dunn and Elliot, original |
| 39 | | Correspondence, 1904, William F. Palmer, W.F. Stearns, copies |

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series I. Vessel Correspondence

Box # Folder#

***Republic* (Three-mast schooner)**

2 40 Correspondence, 1919, outgoing to Dunn and Elliot, copy
41 Correspondence, January 1919, from Dunn and Elliot, original

***Singleton Palmer* (Five-mast schooner)**

42 Correspondence, 1904-1905, William F. Palmer, copies

***Stephen G. Hart* (Three-mast schooner)**

43 Correspondence, 1889, Stephen Hart, copy

***Stephen G. Hart* (Barkentine)**

44 Correspondence, 1888, Capt. Simon Pierson, copy
45 Correspondence, 1891, E. G. Lane, copy
46 Correspondence, 1900-1901, Capt. Thaddeus Babbidge, originals
47 Correspondence, 1903-1910, Capt. Thos. E. Raye, original
48 Correspondence, 1909-1910, James Bliss and Company, originals

***Stephen G. Loud* (Three-mast schooner)**

49 Correspondence, 1903, Josiah W. Hupper[?], original

***William H. Sumner* (Three-mast schooner)**

50 Correspondence, 1903, F. G. French, original

***Willie Reed* (Ship)**

51 Correspondence, 1886, John E. Yates
52 Correspondence, 1886-1889, Oscar S. Yates
53 Correspondence, 1889, J. Baker and Company

MS-456
Stephen A. Jones Sail Loft Papers
Container List

Series II. Correspondence, Unidentified or Multiple Vessels

Box # Folder#

2 54 Correspondence, 1904-1906, *Mary L. Newhall* (Four-mast schooner), *Andrew Adams* (Four-mast schooner), *Eleanor F. Bartram* (Four-mast schooner), Andrew Adams, copies and one original
55 Correspondence, 1910, unidentified vessel, John E. Bradford, original
56 Correspondence, 1900, unidentified vessel, G. A. Carlisle, original
57 Correspondence, 1907, unidentified vessel, Carl K. Crosby, original
58 Correspondence, 1905, unidentified vessel, E. S. Crosby, originals
59 Correspondence, 1919, unidentified vessel, R.O. Elliot, original
60 Correspondence, 1904, unidentified vessel, William E. Farrow, original
61 Correspondence, 1906, unidentified vessel, *Fannie Palmer* (!)(Five-mast schooner), J. C. Fuller, copy
62 Correspondence, 1904, unidentified vessel, John E. Hutchins, originals
63 Correspondence, 1916, unidentified vessel, Insurance Co. of North America, copy
64 Correspondence, 1915, unidentified vessel, Harrie K. Nutting, originals
65 Correspondence, 1904-1905, multiple Palmer vessels, William F. Palmer, copies
66 Correspondence, 1893-1906, multiple vessels, A. R. Reed, copies
67 Correspondence, 1904, unidentified vessel, D. H. Sommer, original
68 Correspondence, 1906, multiple Palmer vessels and unidentified vessels, W. F. Stearns, copies
69 Correspondence, 1900, unidentified vessel, M. F. Wade, original
70 Correspondence, 1900-1902, unidentified vessel, O. C. Welt, originals